

## REPORT ON INFORMATION COLLECTED CONCERNING APPLICANT

Under California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 60835, the Bureau of State Audits is responsible for collecting information concerning applicants for the Citizens Redistricting Commission that is needed by the Applicant Review Panel to perform its responsibilities. Pursuant to that regulation, Stephanie Ramirez-Ridgeway, Counsel for the Applicant Review Panel, requested information on behalf of the panel concerning an applicant being considered for selection to the Commission. This is a report by bureau staff in response to that request.

Name of Applicant: Daniel Everett Walker.

Date of request to collect information: July 29, 2010.

Statement of request: \_\_\_\_\_.

(1) In his essay response to the question on the supplemental application about relevant analytical skills, Applicant reported that he is involved with two charter schools -- Hardy Brown College Prep in San Bernardino and PASC Academic Charter School of Stockton. Are the schools generally considered successful in the community?

(2) In the "Employment History" section of the supplemental application, Applicant stated that since 2008 he has owned and served as a consultant for "Perfect Works." What is Perfect Works, what work does Applicant perform as a consultant, and who are Perfect Works' clients?

(3) Applicant's Letter of Recommendation from Benjamin Vazquez appears to be missing some text. Did the Bureau receive the letter in that form?

Response to request: \_\_\_\_\_.

(1) Hardy Brown College Prep School is described in its press releases as a tuition-free charter school that is scheduled to open in downtown San Bernardino on August 18, 2010. The school claims to have 200 students enrolled for kindergarten and grades 1, 2, 3, and 6 and will expand to include all grades through grade 8 by fall 2012. The school claims to have raised nearly \$900,000 in public and private funding, is targeting children from lower income families, in particular, African Americans, and has no admission requirements. The stated goal of the school is to produce high achieving students. The school is named after the founder of the Black Voice News, a news journal serving the San Bernardino community.

PASC Academy Charter School does not yet exist. In response to questioning by Bureau staff, Applicant reported that he is helping the charter school's potential founders write a charter petition to be submitted to the school district. Applicant stated that the petition is about 70% completed.

(2) Applicant is the founder/CEO of Perfect Works, a consulting firm that says it "designs, implements, and evaluates innovative programming related to public history, faith, education, and the arts." Perfect Works presents itself as a "national leader" of several large projects related to religion, gospel music, education, and the arts. It also organizes "history tours" of the southern United States, with a promise of exploring "the sites and sounds of the African American religious experience." Perfect Works states on its website that it received a \$6.7 million grant from the Templeton Foundation to study the growth and development of global Pentecostalism and leads projects related to African American Pentecostals, the Church of God in Christ, and mega-churches in Los Angeles.

Perfect Works lists on its website BJP Media Works as being one of its associates. BJP Media Works is headed by Dr. Paulette Brown Hinds, CEO of the Black Voice Foundation & a founder of the Hardy Brown College Prep School. BJP's client list includes: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, former Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, "Westly 2006," "Dunn for Controller 2006," and "Carter for Assembly 2006." In response to questioning by Bureau staff, Applicant explained that when Perfect Work gets a client, he takes the lead and brings certain associates into the project as subcontractors to become part of a project team.

(3) The letter of recommendation from Mr. Vazquez is complete and not missing any text. However, some text describing El Centro Cultural de Mexico, specifically, "activities that strengthen their identities, develop t[heir]," was displaced to the left margin of the second page when scanned to a pdf format.

Additional Information:

In the "Activities" section of the supplemental application, Applicant stated that he has engaged in pro bono, contract, and volunteer activities with several organizations. Here is some information regarding his activities with those organizations:

- Believe Foundation (Los Angeles): This is a new non-profit organization (launched about 3 months ago) with the mission of helping young people 'believe in themselves.'

- Hillcrest Uplifted (Los Angeles): Applicants helped the parents of this charter school to prepare a policy statement for presentation to the Los Angeles Unified School District that was approved by the school district.

- Mattie McGlothen Library (Richmond): Applicant was the 'conduit' between the library and USC's Center for Religion and Civic Culture as it obtained assistance with digitizing some of the library's collections.

- San Bernardino County Office of Education (Roots of Freedom Teaching American History Grant): Applicant receives an annual federal grant of \$20,000 to provide training to history teachers.

- San Joaquin County Office of Education (One Nation, Many Faiths Teaching American History Grant): Applicant receives a federal grant of \$1,000 to provide training to history teachers.

- Faith Hope and Justice Conference: A class assignment in 2004 for Applicant's students at the University of California, Riverside, during which students were required to research different faith-based groups and bring them together to share ideas.

- Inland Empire College Outreach Fair is an ongoing event, also a class assignment for Applicant's University of California, Riverside student, during which students research various colleges and present their finding at the "College Outreach Fair."

Recommendations: None

Name and title of person submitting report: Steven Benito Russo, Chief of Investigations

Report date: August 5, 2010